

**RAVALLI COUNTY AIRPORT BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
06 JUNE 2007**

A meeting of the Ravalli County Airport Board was held on Wednesday, 06 June 2007, in the Ravalli County Commissioners' Conference Room @ the Ravalli County Administrative Center, Hamilton, Montana.

Board members present were: Dave Hedditch      Fred Hasskamp      Tex Irwin      Carl Fox      Judy Stewart  
Jim Trowbridge

Others present were as follows:

Alex Beal, Legal Counsel for Ravalli County Commissioners  
Deb Kleen, Ravalli County Aviation Safety Foundation  
Red Caldwell  
Max Martz  
Michael Hayes, attorney representing Max Martz  
Steve Wolters, North Star Aviation  
William C. Stewart, Willow Aviation

**RECEIVED**  
**JUL 11 2007**

**Ravalli County Commissioners**

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The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dave Hedditch at 2:00 P.M. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct the regular business of the Ravalli County Airport Board.

**Item 1:** Chairman Hedditch turned the meeting over to Alex Beal, who discussed the Fournier lawsuit that has been filed against the Ravalli County Commissioners, Ravalli County Airport Board, & North Star Aviation.

**Item 2:** Michael Hayes, attorney for Max Martz, stated that he was representing Martz in a divorce case. Also, that the non-compliance items Martz is accused of needs to be reconsidered. Hayes stated that the Airport Assurances are vague; however, he did not want to get into a discussion regarding the Assurances & contest such. Hayes stated that the issues before him were:

- Martz's parents living in a RV on the Airport.
- Martz's Airport lease
- Give Martz extra time to come into compliance with the Airport lease provisions.

Tex Irwin discussed the items of non-compliance & why Martz should be in compliance by end of July 2007. The following issues were discussed by the Board:

- Storage containers – now removed
- Snow mobile trailer within 10 foot of hangar
- Martz's parents living in a RV on the Airport
- 5<sup>th</sup>-wheel travel trailer on Airport – used for hunting.

Fred Hasskamp added that the advertisement signs for the Airport restaurant should show the restaurant as closed.

Following discussion of the above, Irwin made a motion to give Martz until the 01 August 2007 Ravalli Airport Board meeting to get in compliance with the Federal guidelines. Seconded by Judy Stewart. Motion passed.

**Item 3:** Minutes of the 02 May 2007 meeting were approved as corrected. (Correction: The minutes should have shown Deb Kleen as a representative of the Ravalli County Aviation Safety Foundation, not the Ravalli County Aviation Safety Fund.)

**Item 4:** Hedditch discussed the 02 May 2007 meeting in Helena with John Styba, FAA HEL-ADO, & Rick Donaldson, Robert Peccia & Associates. Hedditch stated that he has also talked with Donaldson today & that there is a possibility of funds being withheld for the AWOS.

Hedditch also discussed the new Fournier hangar (Site 528); that the hangar is being constructed to face the south, thereby providing ingress & egress directly onto a main taxiway. The cease & desist order was lifted on 12 April 2007 due to a conversation between Styba & Alex Beal. When the order was lifted, Fournier continued constructing the hangar with access to the south. This, Hedditch believes, will cause major problems.

Hedditch also mentioned that he was meeting tomorrow with Joell Briggs, FAA Northwest Regional Office Compliance Officer, John Styba, & others. Discussion ensued regarding the situation.

**Item 5: Airport Manager's Report (presented by Hedditch):**

- Ravalli County DUI Task Force & the Airport has jointly purchased a 1999 Dodge pickup.
- New Airport sign to be erected soon. The Pilot's Association will pay for the sign. Other funds will be obtained for the support pole.
- On 14 & 15 June, there will be a Boy Scouts of America Jamboree at the Airport. The Airport has insurance to cover liability. Hedditch outlined the activities to be held for & at the Jamboree.
- Hangar #251 – Bud Hodges is the new purchaser. Designated as Douglas Aviation, it will come under a commercial lease. A water well is in, & Hodges now wants to install a holding tank. Discussion on the proposed transfer. Considerable discussion on insurance coverage. Co. Counsel Beal suggested that \$1,000,000 liability insurance be required for a commercial lease.

Hasskamp made a motion to approve the purchase by Douglas Aviation, including the holding tank installation; that the new lease include a rider that the insurance underwriter shall notify the County when the insurance has been terminated; & that a copy of the insurance policy shall be provided to the County. Seconded by Carl Fox. Motion passed.

- Mention of culverts around SEAT Base building to divert surface water.
- Letters of non-compliance have been sent to Max Martz & Tom Regan.
- Discussion on proposed road on east side of Gun Club – cost of construction & source of funding.
- Someone has been tearing down the fence at the south end of the Airport. The Airport Manager had requested a motion-sensor camera in order to catch the perpetrator(s). The Board of County Commissioners has already approved the request to purchase such camera.

**Item 6: Unfinished Business:**

1. Further mention was made on the Martz lease. The lease mentions pleasure aircraft only & not any other pleasure uses. The lease also requires a \$1,000,000 insurance policy.
2. County Counsel Beal was asked for additional comments on Fournier's construction of the hangar on Site 528. Beal detailed the lifting of the cease & desist order; also of no building plans being provided. Beal stated that in a letter sent to Fournier, it provides that Fournier is not allowed to use the hangar for anything else other than stated in the Airport lease; that he could not block the taxiway during fire season; & that the hangar can only be used for aircraft maintenance & storage. Beal stated, that as the current material is now written, the County would lose in Court if this matter is pursued, as the ALP may indicate hangar access to the west, but does not specifically so state. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the overall lease provisions & the apparent disregard of the Ravalli County Airport Minimum Standards.

Next Airport Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 11 July 2007 @ 2:00 P.M.

Meeting adjourned @ 5:50 P.M.

Submitted by Jim E. Trowbridge  
Secretary, Ravalli County Airport Board